Offer of gas and power by PoK Government

841. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir has offered to supply gas and electricity to J&K as a goodwill gesture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Government does not recognise the so called Government in 'Pakistan Occupied Kashmir'.

No offer has been received from the Government of Pakistan in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Augmented gas supply to Andhra Pradesh

842. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had received requests from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for augmentation of gas supply to their 4 gas-based projects of total 999 mw capacity;

(b) if so, the details of such requests;

(c) the reasons for not supplying the required quantum of gas to the State despite promises made by the Ministry for supply of 0.5 MCMD of gas by September, 2005 and additional supply of 2 MCMD gas to the State from 2nd quarter of 2006; and

(d) by when this augmented gas supply will be started for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Against a total allocation of 4.85 MMSCMD to 4 existing gas based power projects in Andhra Pradesh, the supply has been around 3.68 MMSCMD.

Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APTRANSCO) has requested to augment the gas supply for these power projects.

(c) and (d) The low supply of gas is because of limited production of natural gas in the area and lack of connectivity of this grid to any other production centre/R-LNG terminal.

The gas production from existing fields of ONGC in the State of Andhra Pradesh, *viz.*, Rajahmundry asset, has increased by 0.57 MMSCMD. However, due to natural decline of production from wells of other existing fields, there has been no incremental addition. The gas from G-1/GS-15 project of ONGC is likely to be available from mid 2008.

With recent discoveries of gas made in the KG basin offshore fields, it is expected that the overall gas availability in East Coast would increase. This is projected to reach around 130 to 140 MMSCMD by 2011-12.

Fall in price of crude in the international market

843. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of oil in the international market has been dipping during the past few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this trend will impact on the domestic prices of petroleum products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The price of crude oil in the international market have reduced during the past few months. The Indian Basket crude price touched high of $75.20 per barrel on 8th August, 2006 and the lowest price for the year 2006-07 was $49.85 per barrel on 17th January, 2007. The average prices of Indian Basket of Crude Oil from Apr.' 06 to Feb.' 07 (upto 22/2/07) is tabulated below:

	$ Per Barrel
April 06	67.15
May 06	67.29
June 06	66.80
July 06	71.36